The Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility (AWWU) conducts over $40M worth of design and construction work each year, with over 120 active projects at any given time. As an owner, AWWU strives to make sound decisions during the design process to ensure the constructed project is successful and the finished project addresses the original problem, while not creating additional maintenance concerns or shifting problems to other locations. AWWU is extremely successful in project execution, but there are times during or after construction is completed when we scratch our heads and say, “Why did we do that?” or “This is not working; how did we get here?” This presentation will share some of AWWU’s recent lessons learned for the benefit of other owners and engineers.

Stephen Nuss obtained his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Stephen is a registered civil engineer in the State of Alaska, and has over 20 years’ experience working in Alaska on rural transportation, environmental remediation, and utility upgrade projects. Fourteen years of that time has been spent at AWWU working as a project engineer, project manager, capital program manager, and most recently, as AWWU’s Engineering Division Director. As the Engineering Division Director, Stephen is ultimately responsible for any issues which stem from a constructed project.