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an engineer in Jack Welch's General Electric, confused assets with liabilities or thought that toxic referred to some sort of monetary waste dump. Oh, I guess there is a similarity after all. BofA certainly does have the appearance of a toxic waste dump for money.

It is certain that Freshley was able and willing to overlook the financial peccadilloes of the nation's largest bank to suggest in a public forum, an open meeting of the Third Mutual's financial committee, that changing banks from BofA to F&M (and saving a tidy bundle in the process) would be fiscally irresponsible. It is especially interesting to note that Freshley made these recommendations without input from colleague Stan Feldstein who was kept in the dark about Freshley's recommendation until the night before the financial committee met, too late to review and respond. Third board President Moore was moved to gush over Freshley's presentation of her findings until Director Feldstein declared that he was denied any role in preparing the document, which, in fact, did not at all reflect his opinions.

When one remembers that Freshley was the darling of the PCM/Positive Solutions crew in the recent board elections, you just have to wonder about motivation. What could possibly cause a presumably savvy director to ignore a \$150 billion sink hole under BofA? Where did Freshley, new to the Third board and the finance committee, get pages of banking services that might accrue charges unless they were supplied by PCM's Janet Price? What could possibly provide a motive for PCM to lobby against choosing another bank? Why would PCM have an interest in preventing the separation of Third Mutual's funds? Would it possibly be that the move to a separate bank would prevent Third's funds from being moved between accounts by a simple fiat from Janet Price? Would it give Third Mutual the power to resist irresponsible cost increases and demand accountability?

And, most importantly, just where is this alternate universe where Freshley lives where the economy is robust, all the women are strong, all the men are good looking, all the grandchildren are above average, and all the directors know excrement from Shinola? Where indeed was Freshley's head when her report was written?

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## Letters to the Editor

### Media 55

**T**he evolution of the cable TV and broadband services ended up within the entity called Media 55.

The regular meeting of Golden Rain Foundation Broadband Service Committee dated February 9, 2009 raised several questions regarding the chargeable service to homeowners. Every homeowner (12,736) is a member of GRF and are tenants in common for all facilities including the Cable T.V.

On January 20, 2006 the GRF Board of Directors authorized the implementation of a GRF funded Cable technology upgrade to **Enhanced Digital Service** (EDS to be funded over a five year (5) period (Resolution 90-06-06).

The Broadband Service Committee, February 9, 2009 approved staff's recommendation to purchase additional Set-Top Boxes with a Supplemental Appropriation of \$423,000 to be Funded from the **Equipment Fund**. On August 13, 2008 the GRF Board authorized as part of the 2009 Capital Plan an appropriation in the amount of \$325,000 for Set-Top Boxes from the Equipment fund. These two appropriations amount to \$748,000 for Set-Top Boxes for 2009.

Mr. Ridgeway, Director of Broadband Services Division said each homeowner (12,736) pays \$28.78 per month for Cable T.V. which includes: Employee wages, benefits package related to wages, material and supplies, utilities and fuel, Professional fees, rentals, taxes, programming and copyright fees and other operating expenses for the Broadband Services Division; however in order for residents to receive the new digital service, a Set-Top Box is required.

Digital Services require the rental of a Set-Top Box. There is a **Chargeable Service** of \$30.00 (one time fee) for installation of the Digital Set-Top box **and** \$5.00 per month for the use of the Digital Set-Top Box.