

Case Study | Government

# Cass County, Missouri



## Enhanced Financial Management Made Possible with Small Monthly Payments

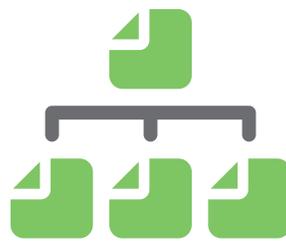
Government organizations can realize the same benefits as Cass County with Zobrios' subscription based pricing:

You can host solutions in the cloud or on-premises. The monthly subscription model includes all upgrades as well as phone support.

Learn more about your pricing options by visiting our website or contacting us at [www.zobrio.com](http://www.zobrio.com)



## The Situation



Cass County is a government entity serving citizens in the Kansas City, MO area. They provide basic government services such as law enforcement, road & bridge maintenance, health services, and 911 administration. In order to provide these valuable services to the public, Cass County has to effectively manage their resources. Two departments within Cass County are responsible for keeping finances on track- the Treasurer and the Auditor's office. Steve Cheslik is the Cass County Treasurer and manages all cash flowing in and out of Cass County. He is also in charge of investments and payroll for all departments.

---

*"When money came in, we wrote paper receipts in 'fourplicate' ditto receipt booklets. The process was very old fashioned and we were getting buried in paper."*

*Steve Cheslik, Cass County Treasurer*

---

Like many government entities, Cass County managed their finances with a number of Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. They had a spreadsheet for all incoming cash flow, another for

disbursements, yet another one for investments and one to track all daily activity. Although Cass County had developed a manual system to meet all regulations, the system did not provide a real-time view into financials and it took hours to create a complete picture of their financial position at any given time. Steve Cheslik recalls that the Treasurer's office was bogged down with redundant data entry, wasting valuable time within their department.

In addition to extremely manual management of their data, Cass County had a paper based receipt process that was causing great redundancy between departments Steve Cheslik explains, "When money came in, we wrote paper receipts in 'fourplicate' ditto receipt booklets. The process was very old fashioned and we were getting buried in paper." The major problem with this paper based process was in the fact that the Treasurer's office needs to connect with several other offices throughout Cass County. For example, the health department, the clerk's office, and the assessor's office produce cash receipts through selling licenses, zoning permits, etc. to the public. All of those receipts need to align with the Auditor's office who then assigns the correct General Ledger code for the final financial reporting. It was not uncommon to improperly code receipts and then have to track down the cause of discrepancies across multiple departments.

Cass County knew it was time to find a cash management solution that could eliminate these redundant processes and streamline their receipt management.

## Solution & Benefits

Cass County started working with Zobrio to create a financial system that allowed for streamlined receiving, payables, investments and better reporting. Zobrio® integrates with a variety of accounting packages. Cass County chose to implement Blackbaud's Financial Edge, a robust accounting solution, paired up with Zobrio®, a flexible cash management solution. The key factor in Cass County's decision was the fact that The Financial Edge would seamlessly connect with Zobrio®. This in itself would ensure proper connections between the Treasurer's office, the Auditor's office, and the other offices that produce receipts. Steve says, "We had seen other cash management solutions, but seeing the way The Financial Edge and Zobrio® interfaced made the light go on. We needed this solution...and now!"



### Streamlined Receipt Processes with Enhanced Workflows

When various offices create receipts, they now have Zobrio® access to complete the transaction. All they need to do is open up Zobrio®, select the receipt type from a drop down of source names (Zoning Permits, for example) and the system immediately matches the source name with the appropriate General Ledger account code. This ensures that the money is coded to the proper General Ledger account code from the outset and eliminates redundant data entry for both the Treasurer's office and Auditor's office. When the various offices give their receipted cash to the Treasurer, they also submit a report of payments showing the Zobrio® receipt transactions from that particular office. This report acts as a cross-check and divides the money out by a user-defined variety of payment types such as; Checks, Cash (paper and coin) Credit Cards, Gift Certificates, etc. The report also starts an enhanced workflow between Treasurer and auditing for a more defined and accurate audit trail. The deputy Treasurer double checks the reports to make sure they match the money in-house before they take it

---

"I used to have to create reports from scratch by manually entering data, but the reporting features in Zobrio® allow me to manipulate data as needed within the application before exporting to Microsoft Excel. . . . source names rather than a numeric account number."

*Steve Cheslik, Cass County Treasurer*

---

to the bank. The Treasurer then sends a final comprehensive report to the Auditor.

This enhanced electronic process has reduced errors because manual intervention is no longer needed. Each office can seamlessly communicate updates for receivables and payables. Even better, the Treasurer's office doesn't need to manage bulk receipts to ensure the Auditor gets the right General Ledger code associated with each transaction, saving their department hours and ensuring compliance with strict government regulations.

With less chance for erroneous data input, reconciliation of cash and bank balances is now made easy. Cass County has access to enhanced reconciliation tools including, automatic error reporting, bank file importing, and speedy clearing techniques of all historical work such as bank statement notes. These tools provide Cass County a complete and accurate audit trail they can stand by.



### Improved Checks and Balances

As mentioned before, Cass County had a manual system to ensure checks and balances equaled out, but that process was time-consuming and frustrating. Instead of spending time on re-entry at each office, they are now double checking transactions to ensure accuracy. It's also very difficult for any step in the process to go awry because as long as the offices are clicking on the correct source name, everything else lines up automatically.



### Electronic Receipting and Reporting

Having their financial information accessible electronically has allowed

Cass County to go virtually paper free. They are no longer buried in receipts and can quickly glance at where they stand financially at any given time. With that said, if they need to print a receipt or a report, Zobrio® still gives them that flexibility.

The reporting capabilities are proving to be extremely useful as well. Steve says, "I used to have to create reports from scratch by manually entering data, but the reporting features in Zobrio® allow me to manipulate data as needed within the application before exporting to Microsoft Excel."

---

"We had seen other cash management solutions, but seeing the way The Financial Edge and Zobrio® interfaced made the light go on. We needed this solution...and now!"

*Steve Cheslik, Cass County Treasurer*

---

## Zobrio Helps Cass County Achieve More with Less

Cass County partnered up with Zobrio to implement Zobrio® and The Financial Edge solution, helping them to streamline accounts receivables, payables, investments and gain better financial insight. Zobrio® and The Financial Edge solution has eliminated redundant data entry, improved checks and balances, and seamlessly integrated transactions between multiple offices. The Treasurer's office can take on additional responsibilities and still effectively run cash management without hiring more people. It has also helped Cass County remain flexible and adapt to changes throughout their organization.