

St. Joseph County AI Task Force Meeting Summary

Creation Notes: As usual, I relied entirely on AI to generate the meeting summaries based on the agenda and transcripts. A few minor edits were necessary this time. Interestingly, it automatically cited its sources without prompting.

Date: September 25, 2024

Time: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: MSUE Conference Room

1) Welcome and Opening Remarks (8:00 - 8:10 AM)

- The meeting kicked off with a brief discussion on new developments in AI, with members sharing recent advancements and experiences. There was a general consensus on the rapidly evolving AI landscape.

2) New AI Tools (8:10 - 8:30 AM)

- **OpenAI o1-Preview and o1 Mini Models:**
 - A detailed presentation was given on OpenAI's latest models, **o1 Preview** and **o1 Mini**, which are more advanced than ChatGPT 4.0. The new models boast PhD-level reasoning abilities and are more accurate, especially in complex problem-solving. The main advantage of these models is their ability to think through various scenarios before providing a response. Members were encouraged to use o1 for advanced queries while continuing to rely on ChatGPT 4.0 for regular tasks(AITF Agenda 240925)(SJC AITF 240925).
- **OpenAI Voice Model:**
 - A demonstration of OpenAI's new voice model, which features natural voice inflection and emotion detection, was discussed. This model is now available on mobile apps, allowing for real-time, natural conversations. Members tested it by asking the AI to tell stories and jokes, demonstrating the improved voice capabilities (SJC AITF 240925).
- **Google NotebookLM:**
 - The group explored **NotebookLM**, a free experimental tool from Google, capable of summarizing documents, creating FAQs, study guides, and even podcasts from uploaded materials. A use case example was presented where the tool was used to create a podcast for county commissioner meetings, saving time and increasing public engagement(SJC AITF 240925).

3) AI Task Force Future Direction: Ongoing Open Discussion (8:30 - 8:55 AM)

- **Role of the AI Task Force:**

- The task force discussed its future role in the county. Suggestions included continuing to explore AI tools and technologies that could streamline government processes and save costs, such as automating workflows and integrating AI in departments like vital records and licensing(SJC AITF 240925).
- **AI Integration into Departments:**
 - Several members shared successes with AI integration. An automation project of Van Buren County **dog licensing** and **vital records requests** was discussed, which is projected to save the county tens of thousands of dollars annually. There was a focus on expanding automation to reduce manual errors and improve public services(SJC AITF 240925).
- **Challenges and Pitfalls:**
 - Concerns were raised about the limitations of AI, such as **prompt accuracy** and **security risks**. A proposal to set up an AI steering committee was discussed to ensure thoughtful implementation, particularly in terms of data privacy and staff training(SJC AITF 240925).

4) Q&A and Discussion (8:55 - 9:00 AM)

- The meeting concluded with a Q&A session, where members asked about the practical applications of the new AI tools in various departments. A key takeaway was the potential for AI to streamline public communication, especially through podcasts and automated form processing(SJC AITF 240925).
- **Next Steps:**
 - The team agreed on the importance of creating **AI steering committees** and developing joint AI strategies with **Van Buren County**. They also discussed future podcast projects and the continued rollout of new AI technologies.