

AVIATION BOARD BACKGROUND LETTER

Aviation Board Meeting Date: March 17, 2025

To: Chair Dickinson and Aviation Board Members
Cc: Mitch Reynolds, Mayor
From: JD Roberts, Airport Business Manager
Subject: Air Service Program Update

Summary:

The following is the monthly update regarding air service initiatives operations and individual airline status updates.

- 1. Air Wisconsin** – Air Wisconsin will be ceasing providing service for American Airlines at LSE on April 4, 2025. The airline is refocusing their operations towards charter operations.
- 2. American Airlines** – With Air Wisconsin’s ceasing operations, Envoy Airlines will replace the CRJ-200 flights (50-seat) with an E170 (70-seat) aircraft. This will increase available seats per day by 20-40 per day with the ungauged aircraft. The Airport will provide notices to help highlight this change and its benefits to the traveling public.
- 3. Delta Airlines** – Excellent meeting with Delta Airlines at the last conference. They did not rule out operating mainline service out of LSE. We could also work with SkyWest (below) in an “at-risk” capacity. This would be a candidate to use our Minimum Revenue Guarantee pool for hub service restoration to MSP.
- 4. United Airlines** – United picked up the Essential Air Service contract in Eau Claire, operating 2 time per day to Chicago. We initially had discussions with them about operating to Denver in order to get our passengers west. However, this would come with a prerequisite that they compete with American to Chicago out of LSE. With them adding EAU, that likely delayed any expansion plans.
- 5. SkyWest Airlines** – SkyWest is a regional carrier, who is allowed to work with Delta in an “at-risk” capacity. That means they would be granted the ability to sell Delta tickets, and fly Delta tailed planes, but SkyWest would assume all the risk for operations. This would be another option to use our Minimum Revenue Guarantee pool for hub service restoration to MSP.

- 6. Sun Country Airlines/Landline** – The Landline Company recently notified the Airport that it would not move forward with the originally planned service to MSP in April. La Crosse is one of three airports Landline informed they would not move forward with service due to changing company decisions.

Requested Aviation Board Action:

None – Informational Update Only

Respectfully Submitted,



JD Roberts
Airport Business Manager